



# Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #45– February 20, 2004

[www.sema.state.mo.us](http://www.sema.state.mo.us)

## **Disaster Preparedness Month/Statewide Tornado Drill March 16**

March is Disaster Preparedness Month. The Statewide Tornado Drill with the National Weather Service will be conducted at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 16. If there is inclement weather, the alternate date will be 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 18. All citizens, schools and businesses are encouraged to practice seeking a safe place during the tornado drill. Last May, a series of tornadoes swept across Missouri devastating Stockton, Pierce City, Carl Junction, Battlefield, Desoto, Cape Girardeau and Canton. When the storm sirens sounded in Jefferson City, members of the General Assembly joined Governor Holden in the basement of the Capitol Building. Thanks to each of you for your diligent efforts to educate your co-workers, family and the public on preparedness.

A series of draft press releases and information from the National Weather Service are on the SEMA website: [www.sema.state.mo.us](http://www.sema.state.mo.us) in the Preparedness Month Link. Feel free to download, adjust and distribute the information to your co-workers across the state.

## **Statewide Agro-Terrorism Functional Exercise Set for Feb 24-25**

In recent weeks news organizations have carried stories about Mad Cow, Animal Chronic Wasting Disease, Avian Flu, Swine Flu pandemic, and mercury contaminated fish. The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness is conducting a pilot agriculture terrorism exercise with Missouri on Feb. 24-25.

State Departments participating the exercise are: SEMA, Homeland Security, Attorney General's Office, Agriculture, Office of Administration, Conservation, Corrections, Health & Senior Services, Social Services, Highway Patrol, Mental Health, Natural Resources, National Guard, Public Safety, Transportation, State Fire Marshal's Office and Water Patrol.

Federal Agencies and private organizations will join the state responders in this exercise. Federal agencies attending are: USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Services, Veterinary Services, and Wildlife Services, FBI, EPA, FEMA, ODP, and the US Army Corps of Engineers. Participants from the local and private sector are: Emergency Management Agencies from Barry, Boone and Jasper Counties, Willow Brook Foods, Joplin Regional Stockyards, the American Red Cross, The Humane Society, Mo NOVA Community Crisis Teams, University of Missouri's Outreach & Extension office, Environmental Health & Safety, Food & Agriculture Policy Research Institute, and the Research Farm. Also participating are the Missouri Poultry Producers, Cattlemen's Assn, and the Missouri Veterinary Medical Assn.

## **Department of Health/Senior Services Launches Ready in 3 Program**

The Department of Health and Senior Services will launch the "Ready in 3" public awareness campaign on March 3 with a series of press conferences in Jefferson City, St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, Kirksville and Cape Girardeau. The campaign focuses on creating a preparedness plan for your family & business, preparing a survival kit for your home, car and/or office, and listening to the news media during an emergency.

The campaign will be distributed through local public health agency outreach efforts, schools (lesson plans and literature to 2100 school administrators, Missouri Center for Safe Schools, and School Board Administration), and through a retailer campaign with over 250 retailers giving out Family Safety Guides to customers. The Family Guide and brochures will be printed in English and Spanish. The DHSS website will post the Family Guide in

Bosnian. The site will also feature certain Fact Sheets in English, Spanish, Bosnian, Vietnamese, Korean and Somali.

### **McLaughlin Named Missouri Citizen's Corps Coordinator**

Meg McLaughlin, formerly of the American Red Cross and a current Missouri Seismic Safety Commission, is the new Missouri Citizen's Corps Coordinator. She begins March 1. Working with Dante Gliniecki, Meg will coordinate grants, administer programs, support/develop Citizen Councils and Citizen Corps programs at both the state and local levels.

### **Area Coordinator Meetings**

Area A Rick Jordan: 10 a.m., March 10, in Higginsville.  
Area B Bob Bailey: 6:30 p.m., March 22, at the Chariton Co. Ambulance District, Salisbury.  
Area C Derek Lohner: TBA  
Area D Candy Adams: 10 a.m., April 21, at Golden Corral, Branson.  
Area E Mark Winkler: TBA  
Area F Tom LeComte: TBA  
Area G Terry Toler: noon, March 3, at Hill Billy Junction, Willow Springs.  
Area H Steven Cheavens: 1:30 p.m., April 28 in Maryville.  
Area I John Hummel: 10 a.m., March 3, Doolittle Community Center, Doolittle.

### **Missouri Fire Departments Receive Firefighter Grants**

FEMA announced five Missouri Fire Departments recently received Fire Grants. They are: Columbia FD (\$51,639), Glendale FD (\$66,178), Mehlville FPD (\$102,596), Nebo-Falcon VFD (\$21,659) and North Harrison FPD (\$65,322).

**Note:** as of 2-14-04, 494 Missouri Fire Departments have received firefighter grants totaling \$32,063,9689. (67 departments in FY 01 \$3,079,688), (176 departments in FY 02 \$10,291,616), and (251 departments in FY '03 \$18,692,968 as of 2/14/04). The information can be viewed at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) – fire grants news releases)

### **ODP WMD Terrorism Awareness Training Grants**

The following associations and educational institutions have signed agreements with SEMA to provide WMD Terrorism Awareness Training to emergency response personnel free of charge through a grant provided by U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness: Mo. Deputy Sheriff's Assn., Mo. Fire Fighter's Assn., Mo. Police Chief's Assn., Mo. Sheriff's Assn., Mo. Emergency Medical Assn., Central Missouri State University, Crowder College, East Central College, Jefferson College, Lincoln University, Metropolitan Community Colleges, Mineral Area College, Missouri Southern State University, Moberly Area Community College, Missouri Western State College, North Central Missouri College, Ozarks Technical Community College, St. Charles Community College, Southeast Missouri State University, Southwest Missouri State University, State Fair Community College, Three Rivers Community College, Truman University, and University of Missouri – Columbia.

Grant period ends April 30, 2005. Please refer to EMD Bulletin #42, December 31, 2003 (you can see this edition on the SEMA homepage on the blue sidebar EMD Bulletin) for a listing of possible courses available through the grant. For additional information, please contact Debbie Cheshire, Training & Exercise Grant Program Mgr., at (573) 526-9111.

### **DHS Consolidates All Grant Programs into One Department**

Grants for EMPG, Fire Fighter Assistance, Terrorism, Training etc. will be consolidated in the next six weeks, the Department of Homeland Security will complete the process of integrating all state and local grant making capabilities into one office. This "one-stop-shop" for state and local government agencies will simplify application and award processes, enable states and local governments to better implement their Statewide Homeland Security Strategies, and develop comprehensive preparedness programs in support of those strategies.

The department will achieve greater consistency in policy and program development, improve efficiency in program management and implementation, and enhance its ability to effectively evaluate program impact and success.

### **Department of Homeland Security Projected FY 05 Budget**

The Department of Homeland Security's budget for FY 2005 is \$40.2 billion. This is an increase of 10 percent above the comparable FY 2004 resource level. The budget substantially increases funding for DHS from 2003 -- the year that the Department was created -- and continues the dramatic growth for agencies that are now a part of DHS. The budget for the Department of Homeland Security builds upon the significant investments to date that improve our safeguards against terrorism, while also sustaining the many important departmental activities not directly related to our fight against terrorism.

The key themes of the budget for Emergency Management are as follows:

**Enhancing Biodefense:** An additional \$2.5 billion for Project BioShield will be available for the development and pre-purchase of necessary medical countermeasures against weapons of mass destruction, and improved bio-surveillance by expanding air monitoring for biological agents in high-threat cities and high-value targets such as stadiums and transit systems. The Federal Government can pre-purchase critically needed vaccines and medications for biodefense as soon as experts agree that they are safe and effective enough to be added to the Strategic National Stockpile.

**Threat Determination and Assessment,** tools and unique analytical capability to enhance the Government's ability to integrate, synchronize and correlate sources of information relating to homeland security, emanating from both traditional (Intelligence and federal law enforcement communities) and non-traditional (State and local governments and private industry) sources, and integrate that knowledge with an understanding of exploitable infrastructure vulnerabilities.

**Expand the capabilities of the National Cyber Security Division (NCSA),** which implements the public and private sector partnership protecting cyber security as it identifies, analyzes, and reduces threats and vulnerabilities; disseminates threat warning information; and coordinates cyber incident preparedness, response, and recovery efforts.

**Support for state and local first responders:** The budget includes a total of \$3.6 billion to support first-responder grants and allotting more of the funds to high-threat areas facing the greatest risk and vulnerability. This includes the Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI) and grants for law enforcement terrorism prevention efforts, and direct grants to improve fire departments' response to terrorism and other major incidents.

**Preparedness and Response Capacity** - Increases totaling \$37 million are included for operations of the Homeland Security Operations Center and to support FEMA incident management capabilities.

### **Homeland Security Partners with DoD "E-MALL"**

The Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense's Defense are partnering on a version of DoD's E-MALL (Electronic Mall). DoD E-MALL is an Internet-based marketplace that allows purchasers to access DoD's wide variety of vendors and catalogs to provide a one-stop shopping experience to acquire the goods and services needed to support DHS' mission.

The partnership enables DHS to participate in one of the largest existing government-to-business exchanges. With a single sign-on, DHS customers can access 383 commercial catalogs containing more than 12 million items and a total of 5.5 million National Stock Numbers from Defense Supply Centers and the General Services Administration. DHS is the first non-defense agency to use EMALL on an enterprise-wide basis. DHS customers will have the ability to buy from existing DoD contracts.

### **Media Trainers: Journalists Should Thank Them!**

From Jonathan Bernstein's *CRISIS MANAGER* newsletter

In a recent edition of the *Columbia Journalism Review*, well-known journalists complained that media trainers teach spokespeople to twist interviews, dodge questions and seize control of interviews. Imagine that! Intelligent spokespeople who don't want to be caught off-guard are coming to interviews armed with facts and

messages, have practiced delivering those messages in advance, and are learning how to speak clearly and concisely so they can explain complicated information in simple terms. Media coaches should really be called communications coaches because they help people communicate more effectively to a variety of groups including reporters, business audiences, analysts, investors, and the public. They teach people not to repeat a reporter's negative words, which will be reported as their own. They use phrases such as: "What's more important to discuss" or "What I'd really like to talk about" to bridge to their own agenda? After all, they're being interviewed because they have information to share. The next time you get a chance to participate in media, or communications training – grab it!

## **Citizen Corps Programs Update in Missouri**

By Dante Gliniecki, Statewide Volunteer Coordinator

**CERT:** The CERT Training Program began in Missouri in 1995 and has grown from a few successful programs to nearly 100 programs statewide in the past two years; 50 of these programs are registered with FEMA. There are currently 67 programs being funded through CERT Supplemental grants. Roughly 4000 Missouri citizens have been through the CERT class and, with over 400 CERT trainers, this number is expected to increase quickly.

A good example of an innovative and effective CERT program is the *Pettis County Cares* - a program executed by Citizen Corps volunteers that requires little expense and is relevant to any size community. The concept includes locating senior and special-needs people in that jurisdiction. Once identified, the CERT members construct and maintain a database. The CERT members will visit participants in the program and provide information and planning guidance. CERT members will check on the program participants in time of disaster based upon a pre-arranged plan.

**Medical Reserve Corps:** The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC – a regional planning commission in the Kansas City area) received a Medical Reserve Corps grant in 2002 as a pilot community. MARC received a second grant in 2003. The initial plan has been written and efforts are now underway to further develop the plan and establish a volunteer cadre. Two new jurisdictions received grants in 2003. A.T. Still University of Health Sciences in Kirksville, MO received a grant for 2003. The City of Columbia also received a grant in 2003.

**DISASTER RESPONSE:** In May of 2003, Missouri was battered by the worst outbreak of tornados in recent history. There were many deaths and property damage amounted to many millions of dollars. Fortunately, two of the hardest hit communities had established Citizen Councils.

**The Greater Kansas City Citizen Council** responded to the disaster with significant resources. The Heart of America United Way Volunteer Center – a member of the Council - coordinated volunteers. The Council coordinated immediate response, debris clearance, donations management and long-term recovery. Community organizations, local government agencies and voluntary organizations coordinated their case management, referrals and other relief / recovery activities through the Citizen Council.

**The Barry-Lawrence County Citizen Council** (Pierce City a particularly hard hit community is in Lawrence County) was prepared to respond after operating in a smaller tornado that had hit the area six months earlier. The Citizen Council organized and coordinated unaffiliated volunteers, donations management, voluntary organizations, community based organizations, mass care, debris clearance, work teams, rebuilding and repair teams, case management and long term recovery.

## **Lewis & Clark Event Highlights**

There are several Lewis & Clark signature events: "Three Flags Ceremony" in St. Louis on **Mar 10-14**. The departure from "Camp River Dubois" on **May 13-16**, Hartford, IL. The "St. Charles: Preparations Complete, The Expedition Faces West" **May 14-23**, in St. Charles, MO. Hundreds of scouts will be camped at the National Guard access to the River when the Expedition nears Jefferson City **May 30-31**.

The Communications committee Chaired by Missouri Water Patrol Captain Hans Huenink has surveyed the ability to communicate along the River and is satisfied that the weak points will be adequately serviced by then. It is arranged for all emergency agencies and law enforcement agencies along the Missouri River to prepare to communicate quickly and with timeliness. The Water Patrol is developing an operations SOG. There are 25 counties that border the Missouri River and it is expected that all of those counties' resources will be ready in any emergency. Information is on [www.lewisandclarkmo.com](http://www.lewisandclarkmo.com)